

SENATE BILL REPORT

SB 5804

As of February 20, 2009

Title: An act relating to voluntarily leaving part-time work.

Brief Description: Setting forth the circumstances under which a person qualifies for benefits when voluntarily leaving part-time work.

Sponsors: Senators Keiser, Franklin, Kohl-Welles and Kline.

Brief History:

Committee Activity: Labor, Commerce & Consumer Protection: 2/19/09.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON LABOR, COMMERCE & CONSUMER PROTECTION

Staff: Mac Nicholson (786-7445)

Background: An unemployed individual will receive unemployment insurance (UI) benefits if that individual meets eligibility requirements, which include having worked at least 680 hours in the last year, being unemployed through no fault of the individual, being able and available to work, and actively searching for work. An individual who voluntarily left work for one of the statutorily listed good cause quit provisions is considered to be unemployed through no fault of the individual.

An individual who leaves work voluntarily without good cause will be disqualified from receiving UI benefits. The disqualification period lasts for seven weeks, and until the individual obtains bona fide employment and has earned sufficient wages.

Summary of Bill: An individual who was simultaneously employed in full-time and part-time employment will not be disqualified from UI benefits if the individual is otherwise eligible for benefits from the loss of the full-time employment, voluntarily quit the part-time employment before the loss of full-time employment, and did not have prior knowledge that he or she would be separated from full-time employment.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Available.

Committee/Commission/Task Force Created: No.

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Effective Date: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.